



Patent
CA7038402001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Kuang-Chien Chen et al.

Serial No.: 10/037,844

Filed: October 19, 2001

**For: SIMILARITY-DRIVEN SYNTHESIS
FOR EQUIVALENCE CHECKING OF
COMPLEX DESIGNS**

)
) Group Art Unit: 2825

)
) Conf. No.: 6729

)
) Examiner: Naum B. Levin

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is responsive to the Notice of Allowability and the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance mailed on December 18, 2003 in connection with the above-identified application.

Applicants are appreciative of the Notice of Allowability indicating that claims 5-17 and 22-44 have been allowed. However, in the Detailed Action accompanying the Notice of Allowability, the supplied statement of reasons for allowance only specifically identified a method having the elements of allowed independent claims 5 and 22 (and their dependent claims) as not being taught, suggested or rendered obvious by the prior art of record. Applicants respectfully note

that independent claims 6, 9, 12, 14, 23, 26, 29, 31 (and their dependent claims) have a different combination of elements than claims 5 and 22, but are likewise allowable and are not taught, suggested or rendered obvious by the prior art of record.

Respectfully submitted,

Bingham McCutchen LLP

Dated: _____

3/18/04

By: _____

Peter C. Mei

Reg. No. 39,768

Three Embarcadero Center, Suite 1800
San Francisco, CA 94111-4067
Telephone: (650) 849-4870
Telefax: (650) 849-4800